

Message Text

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PAGE 01 EC BRU 01883 251034Z

42

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 AGR-05 IGA-02 L-03

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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 597

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: NI, EAID, EEC

SUBJECT: NIGER FOOD SITUATION

REF: NIAMEY 730, STATE 40560, NIAMEY 652

1. CONCERNING NIGER'S REPORTED GRAIN SHORTFALL AND ITS APPROACH TO AID/W FOR SUPPORT, WE ARE INFORMED BY THE EC COMMISSION, FOOD AID DIVISION, THAT NIGER'S MISSION TO THE EC HAS NOT YET APPROACHED THEM FOR ANY ADDITIONAL EC FOOD AID BEYOND THAT WHICH IS ALREADY ENVISIONED.

2. UNDER THE EC'S 1975 FOOD AID PROGRAM FOR NIGER, 7,000 METRIC TONS OF CEREALS (2,000 METRIC TONS OF SORGHUM AND 5,000 METRIC TONS OF CORN) WERE SENT TO NIGER ALONG WITH 500 TONS OF SKIM MILK POWDER. THE FOOD AID DIVISION DESCRIBES THE PLANNED PROGRAM FOR 1976 AS FOLLOWS: 10,000 METRIC TONS OF CEREALS (APPROVED BY THE EC COUNCIL ON FEB 9 FOR DELIVERY LATER THIS
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PAGE 02 EC BRU 01883 251034Z

YEAR) AND 1000 METRIC TONS OF SKIM MILK POWDER (NIGER HAD ASKED

FOR 4,500 TONS). WE ARE ALSO INFORMED THAT THERE IS A PROPOSAL TO PROVIDE FUNDS FROM THE FOURTH EDF (AFTER IS ENTERS INTO FORCE APRIL 1) TO PURCHASE 10,000 TONS OF PEANUTS FOR SEEDING. THIS PURCHASE, IF APPROVED, WOULD TAKE PLACE IN SENEGAL AND BE FINANCED FROM THE EXCEPTIONAL AID PROVISIONS (ARTICLE 59) OF THE LOME CONVENTION.

3. COMMENTING ON THE NIGER REQUEST IN WASHINGTON, OUR CONTACT IN THE FOOD AID DIVISION SAID HE QUESTIONS THE REPORTED SHORTFALL AND NOTED THAT HE BELIEVES NIGER EXAGGERATES ITS NEEDS BY CALCULATING ON AN INFLATED BASIS OF 250 KILOS OF CEREALS PER PERSON PER YEAR INSTEAD OF THE 190-195 KILOS PER PERSON PER YEAR USED IN THE MULTI-DONOR MISSION CALCULATIONS. HINTON

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Message Attributes

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